

the magic words "advertisement." One wonders whether this is the same article that appeared in the *Southern California Practitioner* last April as an "original" contribution to scientific literature; the postal law does not require medical journals to put the word "advertisement" after reading notices.

Oakland (NOT Santa Cruz) is the place of the Annual Meeting of the State Society, April 15, 16 and 17, 1913.

LACK OF COORDINATION.

The potential power of the medical profession is enormous; its actual power is almost nothing; we can never agree and never work together. Time, energy and influence are wasted, frittered away over mere matters of insignificant detail or of phraseology or upon things that do not come within our province but are ruled upon by the courts. It was supposed that this year a larger amount of coordination had been secured; but it was not so to be. Dr. Marlsbary, of Los Angeles, has sent out a circular letter to, presumably, from the number of inquiries that have come to the JOURNAL office, a very large number of people, physicians, lawyers, etc., in which a number of questions affecting medical matters and the medical law are raised. (There is not the slightest intention of questioning Dr. Marlsbary's integrity or the fact that he thought he was doing something for the good of the medical profession; only, it was untimely and should have been referred to the proper Committee of the State Society.) A new definition of the practice of medicine is suggested: "the practice of the healing art for a fee." The courts determine the definition of the practice of medicine and there are a number of good decisions on the subject. Further, one may ask whether, if an appendicitis operation performed for \$1,000 is the "practice of the healing art," what is an appendicitis operation when performed for nothing called? There are many other questions that could be asked, but what's the use!

Oakland (NOT Santa Cruz) is the place of the Annual Meeting of the State Society, April 15, 16 and 17, 1913.

CONGRESS FOR PHYSIOTHERAPY.

The Fourth International Congress for Physiotherapy will take place in Berlin March 26th to 30th and a rather elaborate program seems to have been arranged. The announcement states that American physicians proposing to attend the congress or desiring to contribute papers should communicate promptly with the Chairman of the American Members, Dr. G. Betton Massey, Professional Building, Philadelphia. Many features of entertainment have been provided for the physicians in attendance and for their wives.

Oakland (NOT Santa Cruz) is the place of the Annual Meeting of the State Society, April 15, 16 and 17, 1913.

NEW SOCIETY; OLD JOB.

"To put the medical profession on a business basis, obtain new legislation and rid the country of 'quacks' and many abuses now said to be in existence is the hope of the American Society of Medical Economics, which was incorporated at Albany last week," says the *New York Herald*. Good news! The things this new society is going to do, according to the interview with its founder or sponsor, Dr. E. Elliott Harris, are certainly sufficiently numerous and monumental. It will stop fee splitting and secure to every doctor a better income; it will do away with lodge and contract practice; it will stop the abuse of medical charity in hospitals and dispensaries; it will put an end to the advertising quack. Why certainly! These are all evils within the medical profession itself; physicians themselves are to blame for everything complained of as an abuse or an evil, in the list. The way to correct all these evils is simple; just start a society and "do something"! But principally, start a society; call it anything you like, incorporate or not, but start a society! Never mind the fact that what we complain of is something that we, as physicians, are guilty of doing ourselves; never stop and think that if physicians would refuse to do lodge work, there would be no lodge-practice evil; if they would refuse to split fees, there would be no fee-splitting evil; that if they would not be so anxious to get "material" there would be no hospital and dispensary evil. Pay no attention to these things, but just start a society.

Oakland (NOT Santa Cruz) is the place of the Annual Meeting of the State Society, April 15, 16 and 17, 1913.

PROSECUTING ILLEGAL PRACTITIONERS.

Some months ago the physicians of Alameda County decided to raise funds, by assessing themselves, for the purpose of getting evidence against illegal practitioners who were then to be prosecuted by the prosecuting attorney for the Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. David Hadden has sent us the report on the work from July 1st to the end of the year. The work seems to have cost from \$140 to \$275 per month, or a total of \$1,252; 45 arrests were made and \$1,200 in fines were paid with one case on appeal in which the fine was \$250. A number of the cases included in the report were cases of abortionists, some of them licensed to practice. It is a singular fact that the people, who should care the most, seem to care the least whether quacks flourish or not and that physicians should have to find the funds for protecting the people who do not care about being protected!

Oakland (NOT Santa Cruz) is the place of the Annual Meeting of the State Society, April 15, 16 and 17, 1913.
